

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention is a hybrid communications system (10) using satellite and terrestrial interfaces comprising an application server (12) with an application program (14) for the input of information by a user, the application server (12) being in electronic communication with a broadcast center (16), a communications satellite (18), an individual satellite dish (20), an integrated receiver decoder (22), and a Graphical User Interface (26) for a user to input information into the application program (14). The information is then transmitted over the Internet via a modem (28) in electronic communication with a communications server (30) for encapsulating information input by a user, an interactive server (32) for translating the information into a network protocol, and a vendor (34) that receives the information, wherein in one embodiment, at least a portion of the application program (14) received from the communications satellite (128) is stored in a buffer (24) before being transmitted through the modem (28).

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